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My deal with Bobby has been striking sparks——

Mail Diary

ON THE BIG BACKER

Michael Caine splashes out his cash—into food and fun

Caine and wife : after wine, food and fun

WITH a view to investing his hefty film fees in areas which involve his pleasure hours, Michael Caine has just become a partner in two central London projects which have cost £300,000 to set up.

His latest interests are a French-style brasserie a few yards off Piccadilly started by his old friend Peter Langan and a new nightclub near Marble Arch, where David Niven Jnr. is a partner.

'Michael is my only partner in the brasserie,' said Langan, 35, whose ambitious venture on the site of the old Coq d'Or is costing £150,000. 'I'm not going to say how much he put in, but he is much richer than I am.'

Caine, 43, has also invested a five figure sum in Dial 9 which will open early next month and aims to attract patrons from Annabel's and Tramp. Its other backers are film producer Jack Wiener and restaurateur Nicky Kerman, who own Drones.

Last year Caine—who has just made *'The Eagle Has Landed'* for Wiener and Niven—went into the wine business with his friend and Windsor neighbour Michael Druitt and has prospered. He has a large cellar at home and is regarded as a competent expert.

Not all film folk are successful when they branch away from the celluloid. Bond producer Harry Saltzman lost an estimated £250,000 after he took over The River Club on the Embankment in 1969.

'There goes that dreadful Entwhistle fellow—he's in trade, you know.'

Quote . . .

. . . by Frank Sinatra, 60, on how the first months of marriage to Barbara Marx have treated him:

'I couldn't be happier. I couldn't be healthier and I couldn't be younger. Do I play my own records when I'm in a romantic mood? No, I play classics and jazz.'

What's buzzing at the Beeb?

PUNDITS, professional and amateur, have been having fun guessing who the next Director-General of the BBC will be, in the wake of my August disclosure that Sir Charles Curran, 55, would be stepping down after eight years.

My tip for the £25,000-a-year post, Gerard Mansell, is still the favourite, but the list has widened to include such improbables as Sunday Times Editor Harold Evans, Lord Vaizey and, even, Sir Richard Marsh, recently of British Rail.

The man to watch : Alasdair Milne, 45-year-old Director of Programmes, BBC TV, whose fading star appears to be rising again. His backer is BBC Governor Tony Morgan—a millionaire known as 'Sludge' because his fortune came from a muck-shifting firm.

As yet, Milne has not been nicknamed 'Bootsie.'

At last, Christina makes it up with Niarchos

Christina : a public hatchet-burying

TIME is the only true healer, and two years after she disputed the circumstances surrounding her mother's death, Christina Onassis has publicly buried the hatchet with her stepfather Stavros Niarchos.

Along with his eldest son Philip and daughter Maria, he was invited to Maxim's where Christina, 26 next month, gave a party for 60 friends from the top echelon of French society, known as 'le tout Paris'.

Although Christina and Niarchos, 67, arrived separately, left separately and sat at opposite ends of an immensely long table, they greeted each other affectionately and bygones would appear to be bygones.

After the death of her mother Tina, formerly married to the Duke of Marlborough, suddenly at the age of 45 in the Niarchos apartment in Paris, Christina ordered a separate autopsy and friends felt she held her stepfather to blame for the tragedy.

Niarchos was previously married to Tina's sister Eugenie, who also died in tragic circumstances from an overdose on his private Greek island of Spetsopoula in 1970.

Welcomed : Niarchos

In the intervening period Christina has seen her father die and her marriage, to Alexander Andreadis, break up.

But, wearing a two-inch diamond on a neck pendant and sitting between champagne chief Count Freddie Chandon and banker Baron Guy de Rothschild, Christina seemed like a woman with all her cares behind her.

Michelle heads Warren-wards

ROOTED to London since July, when she started on Ken Russell's film of Valentino opposite Rudolf Nureyev, one time Mamas and Papas singer Michelle Phillips is still managing to keep an eye on her roving boyfriend Warren Beatty.

At the weekend she was surreptitiously booked into the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Los Angeles, where the concupiscent Warren, 38, keeps a bachelor penthouse, despite owning a fair-sized spread nearby.

Could it have been the news of Warren's sudden interest in former fiancee Julie Christie (seen dining together), or his new friendship with actress Louise Fletcher, whose marriage is in a state of flux ?

Last year, after Warren was spotted by me dining Julie in London, Michelle, 31, suddenly appeared at his hotel, Claridge's, after a transatlantic flight.

Persistence may yet be rewarded, and I expect her to marry him next year.

Lifer strikes a Lucifer

THE latest supernatural movie by American film-make: Kenneth Anger, *Lucifer Rising*, starring Marianne Faithful, will have a score written by a convicted Manson murderer.

Anger, a follower of the late black-magician Aleister Crowley, recently dismissed Led Zeppelin musician Jimmy Page from the movie because he had been too long creating a score.

Now he has commissioned Bobby Beausoleil, currently serving a life sentence at the Tracy Men's Correctional Institute in California for the murder of fellow musician Garry Hinman.

Beausoleil was once cast as the lead in the film—until he suddenly took off with the uncompleted negative and buried it in the Mojave desert. The film has since been remade, and is being edited in London.

PS

AFTER last year's fiasco at Miss World, when compere David Vine failed to communicate in any known language, the BBC have engaged Sacha Distel and the Earl of Lichfield to host Thursday's extravaganza.

'I don't know why they picked me,' said photographer Lichfield, the Queen's cousin. 'I only speak English and Cockney.'

Nigel Dempster

CAN YOU AVOID A COLD THIS WINTER?

PROBABLY NOT, If you are unfortunate enough to pick up a cold this winter you will have a choice of trying to stifle it, or being brave and allowing it to take its course. If you decide on the second line of action Potter's Catarrh Pastilles will help you to "grin and bear it".

BUILDING-UP ANTI-BODIES

There is one big advantage when you decide to let your cold take its course. A cold tends to stimulate your natural defences — antibodies against another cold later on. With them you can hope to be immune from another cold for weeks, even months.

So perhaps it's wise to let a cold run its natural course.

POTTER'S CATARRH PASTILLES CUT COLD MISERY. While you are "living with your cold" you can make life more bearable by drinking lots of fluid and resting during the acute phase. More than that — you can get the fast, sure action of Potter's Catarrh Pastilles to ease the misery.

THEY CUT THROUGH CATARRH. The little red pastilles are strong and long-lasting. They dissolve slowly in the mouth, releasing aromatic decongestant vapours which rise into the nasal passages and cut into the cloying mucus which is the cause of that typical "bunged-up" feeling. You begin to breathe freely again.

TAKE ONE TO BED. Pop a Potter's Catarrh Pastille into your mouth at bed-time. It helps you to sleep by clearing the head. Instead of being a conscious and difficult effort, breathing becomes easy and normal again. The soothing juices of the aromatic herbs ease a cough. There is blessed help too if catarrh produces snoring.

THERE'S ONLY ONE

There may be imitations but only the original and long-proven Potter's formulation is good enough for you

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A Relief For CATARRH, COLDS, COUGHS & HAY FEVER

POTTER'S CATARRH PASTILLES

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